Appl. No. 09/912,784
Amdt. dated August 31, 2005
Reply to final Office action of June 2, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

        This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.-16. (Cancelled).

17.   (Currently amended) A computer system comprising:

        a radio module ~~configured to scan~~ that scans for available wireless access points;

        a power supply coupled to the radio module;

        an electrical switch mounted on an external surface of the computer system; and

        a seek logic coupled to the electrical switch and the power supply;

        wherein the seek logic ~~is configured to command~~ commands the power supply to power the radio module responsive to the actuation of the electrical switch, ~~and the command only when the computer system is powered-off~~; and

        wherein the radio module scans for available wireless access points, and indicates the availability of a wireless access point, both while the computer system is powered-off.

18.   (Previously presented) The computer system as defined in claim 17 wherein the radio module further comprises:

        a media access controller coupled to a Universal Serial Bus (USB) of the computer system, the media access controller having a digital input signal coupled to the seek logic, and wherein the media access controller scans for available wireless access points responsive to assertion of the digital input signal by the seek logic;

        a plurality of radio circuits that convert wireless communication from the computer system to radio frequency signals; and

a signaling unit coupled to the media access controller that indicates the availability of a wireless access point.

19.   (Original) The computer system as defined in claim 18 wherein the signaling unit further comprises a light emitting diode (LED) coupled to the media access controller, and wherein the media access controller lights the LED if a wireless access point is available.

20.   (Original) The computer system as defined in claim 18 wherein the signaling unit further comprises a display device capable of scrolling text messages, and wherein the media access controller places text messages on the display device indicating the availability of a wireless access point.

21.   (Previously presented) The computer system as defined in claim 17 wherein the electrical switch further comprises a momentary push button switch mounted on an outer surface of a video display of the computer system.

22.   (Currently amended) A computer system comprising:
    a radio module that scans for available wireless access points;
    a power supply coupled to the radio module;
    an electrical switch mounted on an external surface of the computer system; and
    a seek logic coupled to the electrical switch and the power supply;
    wherein the seek logic commands the power supply to power the radio module responsive to the actuation of the electrical switch, the command only when the computer system is powered-off~~The computer system as defined in claim 17 wherein the seek logic is configured command the power supply to supply power to the radio module for a~~, and the command for the same amount of time that the electrical switch is activated, thus requiring the user to hold

electrical switch in the actuated position during a seek period of the media access controller; and

wherein the radio module scans for available wireless access points, and indicates the availability of a wireless access point, both while the computer system is powered-off.

23.   (Previously presented) The computer system as defined in claim 22 wherein the seek logic further comprises:

a power supply enabled input signal, wherein the power supply enabled input signal is asserted to indicate that the notebook computer is powered-on; and

wherein the seek logic is further configured to refrain from commanding the radio module to perform a scan for available wireless access points if the power supply enabled input signal is asserted.

24.   (Previously presented) The computer system as defined in claim 17 wherein, responsive to a momentary actuation of the electrical switch, the seek logic is configured to command the power supply to power the radio module for a sufficient amount of time to allow the radio module to perform a wireless access seek function, and wherein the seek logic commands the radio module to perform a scan for available wireless access points responsive to the momentary actuation of the electrical switch.

25.   (Previously presented) The computer system as defined in claim 24 wherein the seek logic further comprises:

a power supply enabled input signal, wherein the power supply enabled input signal is asserted to indicate that the notebook computer is powered-on; and

wherein the seek logic is further configured to refrain from commanding the radio module to perform a scan for available wireless access points if the power supply enabled input signal is asserted.

26.   (Previously presented) A method of finding wireless access points with a computing device, the method comprising:

      requesting a wireless access seek with the computing device powered-off;

      scanning for available wireless access points with a wireless communication module of the portable computing device while remaining portions of the computing device are powered-off; and

      indicating the availability of wireless access points while the remaining portions of the computing device are powered-off.

27.   (Original) The method as defined in claim 26 wherein requesting a wireless access seek further comprises actuating a momentary push-button.

28.   (Original) The method as defined in claim 27 wherein actuating a momentary push-button further comprises pushing a button mounted on an outer surface of the computing device.

29.   (Previously presented) The method as defined in claim 26 wherein requesting a wireless access seek further comprises:

      enabling substantially only a power supply that supplies power to the wireless communication module; and

      asserting a seek request signal to the wireless communication module.

30.   (Previously presented) The method as defined in claim 26 wherein scanning for available wireless access points further comprises executing software in a microcontroller of the wireless communication module, and wherein the software controls various radio components in the wireless communication module.

31.   (Original) The method as defined in claim 26 wherein informing the user of the availability of wireless seek access points further comprises lighting a light emitting diode.

32.   (Currently amended) A computer comprising:

        a seek request button mounted on an outer surface of the computer;

        a seek logic coupled to the seek request button;

        <u>a first power supply coupled to the seek logic, and wherein the seek logic enables substantially only the first power supply responsive to assertion of the seek request button;</u>

        a wireless communication module coupled to the seek logic and a <u>the</u> first power supply, wherein the first power supply powers ~~substantially only~~ <u>the</u> wireless communication module ~~responsive to assertion of the seek request button~~, and wherein the seek logic enables the wireless communication module to perform seeking for wireless access points responsive to assertion of the seek request button; and

        a notification device coupled to the wireless communication module, wherein the notification device indicates the <u>un</u>availability of a wireless access point.

33.   (Original) The computer as defined in claim 32 wherein the notification device further comprises a light emitting diode.

34.   (Currently amended) <u>A computer comprising:</u>

        <u>a seek request button mounted on an outer surface of the computer;</u>

        <u>a seek logic coupled to the seek request button;</u>

        <u>a wireless communication module coupled to the seek logic and a first power supply, wherein the first power supply powers substantially only the wireless communication module responsive to assertion of the seek request button, and wherein the seek logic enables the wireless communication module to perform seeking for wireless access points responsive to assertion of the seek request button; and</u>

a notification device coupled to the wireless communication module, wherein the notification device indicates the availability of a wireless access point;

~~The computer as defined in claim 32~~ wherein the seek logic refrains from enabling the wireless communication module to perform seeking for wireless access clients if the computer is powered-on.

35.   (Cancelled).

36.   (Currently amended) A computer system comprising:

a means for activating a seek for a wireless access point mounted on an outer surface of the computer;

a means for wireless network access;

a first means for powering the means for wireless network access;

a means for controlling the means for wireless network access coupled to the means for wireless network access, the means for activating, and the means for powering;

wherein the first means for powering powers substantially only the means for wireless network access, and wherein the means for controlling enables the means for wireless network access to perform a seek for wireless access points responsive to assertion means for activating; and

a means for notification of the <u>un</u>availability of a wireless access point coupled to the means for wireless communication.

37.   (Original) The computer system as defined in claim 36 wherein the means for activating a seek request for a wireless access client further comprises an electrical switch mounted on an outer surface of the computer system.

38.   (Currently amended) <u>A computer system comprising:</u>
        <u>a means for activating a seek for a wireless access point mounted on an</u>
                <u>outer surface of the computer;</u>
        <u>a means for wireless network access;</u>
        <u>a first means for powering the means for wireless network access;</u>
        <u>a means for controlling the means for wireless network access coupled to</u>
                <u>the means for wireless network access, the means for activating,</u>
                <u>and the means for powering.</u> ~~The computer system as defined in~~
                ~~claim 36~~ <u>wherein the means for controlling refrains from enabling</u>
                <u>the means for wireless network access to perform seeking for</u>
                <u>wireless access points if the computer system is powered-on;</u>
        <u>wherein the first means for powering powers substantially only the means</u>
                <u>for wireless network access, and wherein the means for controlling</u>
                <u>enables the means for wireless network access to perform a seek</u>
                <u>for wireless access points responsive to assertion means for</u>
                <u>activating; and</u>
        <u>a means for notification of the availability of a wireless access point</u>
                <u>coupled to the means for wireless communication.</u>

39.   (Previously presented) The computer system as defined in claim 36 wherein the means for notification further comprises a light emitting diode (LED), and wherein the means for wireless network communication lights the LED to indicate the availability of a wireless access point.

40.   (Previously presented) A structure of a handheld device comprising:
        a seek request button mounted on an outer surface of the device;
        a wireless communication module coupled to the seek request button, and
                wherein the wireless communication module seeks for availability of
                a wireless connection to the Internet for a computer, the seeking
                responsive to assertion of the seek request button;

a system battery coupled to the wireless communication module, and wherein the system battery supplies power to the wireless communication module during seeks for wireless access points; and

a notification device coupled to the wireless communication module, wherein the notification device indicates the availability of a wireless access point.

41.   (Original) The handheld device as defined in claim 40 wherein the notification device further comprises a light emitting diode (LED).

42.   (Original) The handheld device as defined in claim 41 wherein the notification device further comprises a plurality of LEDs arranged in such a way as to indicate one of the availability and non-availability of wireless access.

43.   (Original) The handheld device as defined in claim 40 wherein the notification device further comprises a display device for displaying text messages indicative of the availability of wireless access.

44.   (Original) The handheld device as defined in claim 40 wherein the wireless communication module further comprises:

a microcontroller coupled to the seek request button and the system battery, and wherein the microcontroller is programmed to perform wireless access seeks responsive to assertion of the seek request button;

a plurality of radio circuits coupled to the microcontroller adapted to facilitate the microcontroller's wireless access seeks.

Appl. No. 09/912,784
Amdt. dated August 31, 2005
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45.   (Previously presented) A system comprising:

a mobile computing system in a powered-off state;

a wireless communication module coupled to the mobile computing system; and

a seek enable button mounted on an exterior surface of one of the mobile computing system or the wireless communication module;

wherein the wireless communication module, when commanded by a user actuating the seek enable button and while the mobile computing system is powered-off, scans for availability of wireless access to a network; and

wherein the wireless communication module informs the user of availability of wireless access while the mobile computing system is powered-off.

46.   (Previously presented) The system as defined in claim 45 further comprising:

a power supply coupled within the mobile computing system;

wherein the power supply, responsive to actuating of the seek enable button by the user, supplies power to the wireless communication module, and refrains from powering the mobile computing system such that the mobile computing system remains powered-off.

47.   (Previously presented) The system as defined in claim 46 further comprising:

a seek logic coupled between the seek enable button and the power supply, the seek logic also coupled between the seek enable button and the wireless communication module;

wherein the seek logic, responsive to assertion of the seek enable button, commands the power supply to supply power to the wireless communication module, and wherein the seek logic, responsive to assertion of the seek enable button, commands the wireless

communication module to scan for availability of wireless access to a network.

48.   (Currently amended) <u>A system comprising:</u>

<u>a mobile computing system in a powered-off state;</u>

<u>a wireless communication module coupled to the mobile computing system;</u>

<u>a seek enable button mounted on an exterior surface of one of the mobile computing system or the wireless communication module;</u>

<u>a power supply coupled within the mobile computing system;</u>

<u>a seek logic coupled between the seek enable button and the power supply, the seek logic also coupled between the seek enable button and the wireless communication module;</u>

<u>wherein the seek logic, responsive to assertion of the seek enable button, commands the power supply to supply power to the wireless communication module, wherein the seek logic, responsive to assertion of the seek enable button, commands the wireless communication module to scan for availability of wireless access to a network, and</u>The system as defined in claim 47 <u>wherein the seek logic refrains from commanding the power supply and wireless communication module if the mobile computing system is powered-on;</u>

<u>wherein the wireless communication module, when commanded by a user actuating the seek enable button and while the mobile computing system is powered-off scans for availability of wireless access to a network;</u>

<u>wherein the wireless communication module informs the user of availability of wireless access while the mobile computing system is powered-off; and</u>

<u>wherein the power supply, responsive to actuating of the seek enable button by the user, supplies power to the wireless communication</u>

Appl. No. 09/912,784
Amdt. dated August 31, 2005
Reply to final Office action of June 2, 2005

module, and refrains from powering the mobile computing system
such that the mobile computing system remains powered-off.

49.   (Previously presented) A method comprising:
       accepting a command from a user of a powered-off mobile computing
              device to perform a search for wireless network availability; and
              thereafter
       performing a search for wireless network availability by a wireless
              communication module of the mobile computing device, the
              performing while the mobile computing device is powered-off; and
       informing the user of an outcome of the performing, the informing while the
              mobile computing device is powered-off.

50.   (Previously presented) The method as defined in claim 49 wherein
accepting further comprises sensing the actuation of a seek enable button on an
exterior surface of one of the mobile computing device or the wireless
communication module.

51.   (Previously presented) The method as defined in claim 49 wherein
informing further comprises lighting a light emitting diode.

52.   (Previously presented) The method as defined in claim 49 wherein
informing further comprises scrolling a message across a liquid crystal display.

53.   (New) The computer system as defined in claim 17 wherein the radio
module indicates the unavailability of a wireless access point while the computer
system is powered-off.

54.   (New) A computer system comprising:
       a radio module that scans for available wireless access points;
       a power supply coupled to the radio module;

153774.01/1662.36800   Page 12 of 20   HP PDNO 200301994-1

PAGE 16/24 * RCVD AT 8/31/2005 3:50:21 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-6/32 * DNIS:2738300 * CSID:5123209181 * DURATION (mm-ss):09-22

an electrical switch mounted on an external surface of the computer
    system; and

a seek logic coupled to the electrical switch and the power supply;

wherein the seek logic commands the power supply to power the radio
    module responsive to the actuation of the electrical switch; and

wherein the radio module scans for available wireless access points, and
    indicates the availability of a wireless access point, both before the
    operating system of the computer system is booted.

55.   (New) The computer system as defined in claim 54 wherein the radio module indicates the unavailability of a wireless access point before the operating system of the computer system is booted.